

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A machine-implemented method for providing service data over a data transmission network, comprising the steps of:

 providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired service data;

 receiving an input signal representative of a selection of desired service data via the data transmission network;

 retrieving the desired service data based on the selection; and

 transmitting the desired service data to a data processing system via the data transmission network;

 wherein the service data includes information needed for carrying out a machine-implemented service process.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the service data is indexed by types of diagnoses and models.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the service data is used to convert signals representative of a vehicle diagnostic state into a processed diagnostic signal.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the service data includes alignment specifications.

5. A machine-implemented method for providing service data over a data transmission network, comprising the steps of:

 providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired service data;

 receiving an input signal representative of a selection of desired service data;

 receiving user information representing a user;

 verifying the user information; and

responsive to the user information representing a valid user, transmitting the desired service data to a data processing system via the data transmission network.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the user information includes a product code associated with a specific device or system.

7. The method of claim 6, further including the steps of:

generating an activation code based on the product code for activating the desired service data; and

transmitting the activation code to the data processing system via the data transmission network.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the verifying step includes comparing the product code with a database of valid product codes.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein the service data is used to convert signals representative of a vehicle diagnostic state into a processed diagnostic signal.

10. A machine-implemented method for providing service data over a data transmission network, comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired service data;

receiving an input signal representative a selection of desired service data;

receiving payment information;

initiating validation of the payment information; and

responsive to validation of the payment information, transmitting the desired service data to a data processing system via the data transmission network.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the payment information includes credit card information.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the initiating step includes sending credit card information to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network for validation.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the service data is used to convert signals representative of a vehicle diagnostic state into a processed diagnostic signal.

14. The method of claim 10, further including the steps of:
receiving a product code associated with a specific device or system;
responsive to validation of the payment information, generating a license code based on the product code; and
transmitting the license code to the data processing system via the data transmission network;
wherein the license code is required to access the desired service data.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the license code includes an expiration date and cannot be used to access the service data after the expiration date.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein a correct combination of the product code and the license code is required to access the service data.

17. A data processing system for providing service data over a data transmission network, comprising:
a processor for processing data;
a memory;
a data storage device for storing data;

a communication interface for operatively coupling to the data transmission network and transmitting data therefrom; and

a bus operatively coupled to the memory, the data storage device, the communication interface, and the processor;

the data storage device bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:

providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired service data;

receiving an input signal representative of a selection of desired service data from the communication interface;

retrieving the desired service data from the data storage device or a remote storage device operatively coupled to the data processing system; and

transmitting the desired service data to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

wherein the service data includes information needed for carrying out a machine-implemented service process.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the data storage device further bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:

receiving payment information;

initiating validation of the payment information;

receiving a product code associated with a specific device or system;

generating an activation code for activating the service data based on the product code; and

transmitting the activation code to the remote data processing system.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein a correct combination of the product code and the activation code is required to access the service data.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein the data storage device further bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:

- receiving payment information;
- initiating validation of the payment information;
- receiving a product code associated with a specific data processing system;
- generating a license code based on the product code, wherein the license code is necessary for accessing the service data; and
- transmitting the license code to the remote data processing system.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein a correct combination of the product code and the license code is required to access the service data.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the license code includes an expiration date and cannot be used to access the service data after the expiration date.

23. A data processing system for providing service data over a data transmission network, comprising:

- a processor for processing data;
- a memory;
- a data storage device for storing data;
- a communication interface for operatively coupling to the data transmission network and transmitting data therefrom; and
- a bus operatively coupled to the memory, the data storage device, the communication interface, and the processor;

the data storage device bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:

- providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired service data;

receiving an input signal representative a selection of desired service data;

receiving user information representing a user;

verifying the user information; and

responsive to the user information representing a valid user, retrieving the desired service data from the data storage device or a remote storage device connected to the data processing system; and

transmitting the desired service data to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein the data storage device further bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:

receiving a product code representing a specific device or system;

responsive to the user information representing a valid user, generating a license code based on the product code; and

transmitting the license code to the remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

wherein the license code is necessary to access the service data.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the license code includes information related to an expiration date and becomes invalid after the expiration date.

26. The system of claim 24, wherein a correct combination of the product code and the license code is required to access the service data.

27. A machine-implemented method for providing data over a data transmission network, comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired data;

receiving an input signal representative a selection of desired data;

receiving a product code associated with a specific device or system;

validating the product code;
responsive to a valid product code, generating a license code based on the product code; and
transmitting the license code to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network;
retrieving the desired data; and
transmitting the desired data to the remote data processing system via the data transmission network;
wherein the license code is required to access the desired data.

28. The method of claim 27, including using the data to convert signals representative of a vehicle diagnostic state into a processed diagnostic signal.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein a correct combination of the product code and license code is required to access the desired data.

30. A data processing system for providing data over a data transmission network, comprising:

a processor for processing data;
a memory;
a data storage device for storing the data;
a communication interface for operatively coupling to the data transmission network and transmitting data therefrom; and
a bus operatively coupled to the memory, the data storage device, the communication interface, and the processor;
the data storage device bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the processor to perform the steps of:
providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired data;
receiving an input signal representative a selection of desired data;
receiving a product code associated with a specific device or system;

validating the product code;

responsive to a valid product code, generating a license code based on the product code; and

transmitting the license code to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

retrieving the desired data from the data storage device; and

transmitting the desired data to the remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

wherein the license code is required to access the desired data.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein a correct combination of the product code and license code is required to access the desired data.

32. A data processing system for providing data over a data transmission network, comprising:

means for processing data;

means for storing data;

means for operatively coupling to the data transmission network for transmitting or receiving data therefrom; and

bus means for transmitting data thereon, the bus means operatively coupled to the means for storing data, the means for operatively coupling to the data transmission network, and the means for processing data;

the means for storing data bearing instructions to cause the data processing system upon execution of the instructions by the means for processing data to perform the steps of:

providing a user interface for soliciting selections of desired data;

receiving an input signal representative a selection of desired data;

receiving a product code associated with a specific device or system;

validating the product code;

responsive to a valid product code, generating a license code based on the product code; and

transmitting the license code to a remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

retrieving the desired data from the means for storing data; and

transmitting the desired data to the remote data processing system via the data transmission network;

wherein the license code is required to access the desired data.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein a correct combination of the product code and license code is required to access the desired data.